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Thursday, August 20, 2020

+ **OPENING CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER**

O God, open our lips,  
***and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.***  
From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
***we praise your name, O God.***

[ADAPTED FROM PSALM 51:15 AND 113:3]

+ **REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM**

(Water may be touched, poured or sprinkled.)

By Word and water God renews us this day  
in the living fountain of God's grace,  
and raises us with Christ Jesus  
to live a new life in the Spirit.  
***Satisfy us in the morning***  
***with your steadfast love, O God,***  
***that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.***

[PSALM 90:14]

+ **MORNING HYMN OR CANTICLE**

Come, let us sing to the Ho-ly One; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our sal-vation.  
Let us come before God's presence with thanks-giving,\*  
and raise a loud shout with *psalms*.

For you, O God, are a great God,\*  
you are great a-bove all *gods*.  
In your hand are the caverns of the *earth*,\*  
and the heights of the hills are yours *also*.  
The sea is yours, for you *made it*,\*  
and your hands have molded the dry *land*.  
Come, let us bow down and bend the *knee*,\*  
and kneel before God, our *Maker*.

For you are our God,  
and we are the people of your pasture  
and the sheep of your *hand*.\*  
Oh, that today we would hearken to your *voice*!

[PSALM 95:1-7 (OSH PSALTER)]

+ **MORNING PRAYER**

The Holy One\* be with you;  
***And also with you.***

Let us pray:  
We give you hearty thanks for the rest of the past night  
and for the gift of a new day, with its opportunities of  
pleasing you. Grant that we may so pass its hours in the  
perfect freedom of your service, that at eventide we may  
again give thanks unto you. ***Amen.*** [UM Book of Worship]

**+ Psalm 138**

Antiphon:

***I sing your praise for steadfast love;***

***Fulfill your purpose for me.***

<sup>1</sup> I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;

before the gods I sing your praise;

<sup>2</sup> I bow down toward your holy temple

and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love

and your faithfulness;

for you have exalted your name and your word

above everything.

<sup>3</sup> On the day I called, you answered me,

you increased my strength of soul.

<sup>4</sup> All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,

for they have heard the words of your mouth.

<sup>5</sup> They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,

for great is the glory of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;

but the haughty he perceives from far away.

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble,

you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;

you stretch out your hand,

and your right hand delivers me.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;

your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,

one God, now and for-ever, *A-men*.

Antiphon:

***I sing your praise for steadfast love;***

***Fulfill your purpose for me.***

Silence

+ WORD: 1 Corinthians 6:1-8 NRSV

When any of you has a grievance against another, do you dare to take it to court before the unrighteous, instead of taking it before the saints?

<sup>2</sup> Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?

And if the world is to be judged by you, are you

incompetent to try trivial cases?

<sup>3</sup> Do you not know that we are to judge angels—to say nothing of ordinary matters?

<sup>4</sup> If you have ordinary cases, then, do you appoint as judges those who have no standing in the church?

<sup>5</sup> I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to decide between one believer and another,

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<sup>6</sup> but a believer goes to court against a believer —and before unbelievers at that?

<sup>7</sup> In fact, to have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?

<sup>8</sup> But you yourselves wrong and defraud—and believers at that.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH**

We bless you, Adonai, God of *Israel*,  
for you come to visit us and ransom us from *bondage*.  
You have brought forth a strong De-liverer  
in the house of your child *David*.

**This is what your holy prophets an-nounced:  
deliverance from enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate us;  
mercy a-mong our *ancestors*,  
and remembrance of your ho-ly *covenant*.**

This is the promise you swore to our an-cestor, *Abraham*,  
to make us un-a-*fraid*,  
to rescue us from our *enemies*,  
to serve before you, holy and just, all the days of our *lives*.

**And this, my little child,  
shall be called prophet of the Most *High*,  
going before you, Adonai, to pre-pare your *paths*,  
making your people know de-*liverance*  
by the forgiveness of their *sins*.**

[Unison]

**Through your merciful compassions, God our *God*,  
the dawn from on high shall *visit* us,  
to shine on those kept in dungeons and the shadows of *death*  
and to guide our feet onto the path of *peace*. [LUKE 1:68-79;OSL]**

Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,  
one God, now and for-ever, *A-men*.

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+ **A READING FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION:**

“There are those who seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge; that is Curiosity.

There are those who seek knowledge to be known by others; that is Vanity.

There are those who seek knowledge in order to serve; that is Love.”

*Attributed to: Bernard of Clairvaux*

Silent reflection

+ **PRAYERS**

The Holy One be with you,

***and also with you.***

Let us pray:

+ **SILENT PRAYER**

Requests known to you

+ FOR HEALTH OF BODY AND SOUL

For those we have lifted up today, may God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

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+ PRAYERS FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYERS FOR OUR ENEMIES

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth: deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

***Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.***

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+ CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father,  
You have brought us in safety to this new day:  
preserve us with your mighty power,  
that we may not fall into sin,  
nor be overcome by adversity;  
and in all we do direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ BLESSING

Before us it is blessed, behind us it is blessed,  
below us it is blessed, above us it is blessed,  
around us it is blessed as we set out with Christ.  
Our speech is blessed as we set out for God.  
With beauty before us, with beauty behind us,  
with beauty below us, with beauty above us,  
with beauty around us, we set out for a holy place  
indeed. **Amen.**

(TRADITIONAL NAVAHO PRAYER, ALT.)